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DIRECTOR

*Hqs' guidance for handling correspondence for the
Lowenstein Moose briefings.

RYBAT

SECTION 1 OF 2

REF:

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2 MAY IN 324606

25X1A

NORTH OPS BRIEFING BY [REDACTED] FOR LOWENSTEIN AND MOOSE.

25X1A

1. [REDACTED] BRIEFED LOWENSTEIN AND MOOSE FROM APPROXIMATELY
1130 HOURS TO 1240 HOURS ON 1 MAY, PRIMARILY COVERING NAM YU AND
LUANG PRABANG ACTIVITIES WITH AN ESTIMATED 10 MINUTES SPENT ON
LONG TIENG SINCE THIS AREA HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN COVERED DURING THEIR
UPCOUNTRY VISIT TO THE UNIT.

2. BRIEFING ON THE NAM YU AREA COVERED THE FOLLOWING POINTS
WHICH GENERATED LIMITED QUESTIONING FROM BOTH LOWENSTEIN AND MOOSE
AS NOTED.

A. NAM YU HAS FOUR BG BATTALIONS OPERATIONALLY DEPLOYED,
WITH A TOTAL OF 5,089 ARMED ASSETS OF WHICH 2,280 ARE BG, 600 PLUS
IN ROADWATCH/INTEL TEAMS, AND REMAINING IN ADC (VILLAGER DEFENSE
UNITS SIMILAR TO VIETNAM REGIONAL FORCES) PLUS SUPPORT ELEMENTS.
SITUATION REPORT COVERED DEPLOYMENT OF BG'S, INTEL AND ROADWATCH
TEAMS; EMPHASIS PLACED ON BG'S TDY TO [REDACTED] DURING 1970
ELEMENTS OF TWO BATTALIONS, WITH ONE CURRENTLY DEPLOYED LONG

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TIENG UNDERSTRENGTH); ELEMENTS OF ONE BATTALION TDY TO LUANG PRABANG IN LIGHT OF CURRENT TACTICAL SITUATION.

B. EMPHASIS PLACED ON IRREGULAR DEFENSIVE POSTURE DURING ENEMY DRY SEASON ACTIVITIES, AND IRREGULAR ATTEMPTS DURING RAINY SEASON TO REOCCUPY POSITIONS LOST TO THE ENEMY. NO MAJOR OFFENSIVE ACTION GENERATED BY NAM YU IRREGULARS IN RECENT YEARS.

C. IRREGULAR FORCES CONSIST OF ETHNIC TRIBALS NATIVE TO THE AREA. LOWENSTEIN QUESTIONED NAMES OF ETHNIC GROUPS AND WAS PROVIDED WITH LAHU, YAO, LAO LOUM, LAO THEUNG, EKAW, AND KA. CONVERSATION THEN GENERATED AROUND NATIVE AREAS. ADVISED SUBJECTS THAT OF THE FOUR BG UNITS, CONSISTING OF YAO, LAO THEUNG, LEU AND LAO LOUM, EACH HAD ETHNIC COMMANDERS WHO COORDINATED WITH FAR, [REDACTED] CASE OFFICERS, AND THAI SUPPORT ELEMENTS, IN SUPPORT OF THEIR OPERATIONS AND OUTPOST POSITIONS. DCOS/COB CLARIFIED

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25X1C

D. BRIEFING THEN CENTERED ON ROADWATCH AND INTEL TEAM

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ACTIVITIES WHICH COVERED TARGETS WHERE UNIT ATTEMPTS TO MAINTAIN
24 HOUR COVERAGE OF VEHICLE TRAFFIC (ROUTE 4/46).

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25X1C

F. BRIEFING THE MOVED EASTWARD COVERING INDICATIONS OF INCREASE IN RECENT MONTHS OF VEHICLE TRAFFIC ON ROUTE 4 AND ROUTE 45/46, ADVISING SUBJECTS THAT BASE PI OFFICER WOULD COVER THESE ACTIVITIES IN DETAIL.

G. ENTERED INTO SAYABOURY AREA BRIEFING AND ADVISED SUBJECTS THAT XIENG LOM WAS A SUB-UNIT OF NAM YU WITH [REDACTED] 25X1A
[REDACTED] SUPPORT OF INTEL TEAM OPERATIONS ALONG THE SAYABOURY BORDER ADJACENT TO NAN AND CHIANG RAI PROVINCE OF THAILAND. NO MENTION OF [REDACTED] DURING 25X1C
PAST YEAR DISCUSSED. LOWENSTEIN QUERIED HOW MANY [REDACTED] OFFICERS 25X1A

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25X1A

INVOLVED IN NAM YU AREA. ADVISED THAT

25X1A

25X1A [REDACTED]. BRIEFED ON TACTICAL SITUATION VICINITY WEST OF XEING LOM/BAN MUONG, HOU EI LAO, PAK KHOP/, ADDING FACT THAT RLAF T-28 SUPPORT ASSISTS IRREGULAR AND FAR OUTPOST POSITIONS. MOOSE QUERIED IF USAF SUPPORTED IRREGULAR POSITIONS WITH STRIKES. COB ADVISED SUBJECT THAT WITHIN PAST THREE YEARS HE DOES NOT RECALL ANY USAF SUPPORT IN WESTERN MR-I. SINCE BOTH 25X1A LLWENSTEIN AND MOOSE RECEIVED 7/13 [REDACTED] BRIEFING EARLIER, NORTH OPS OFFICER ADVISED SUBJECTS THAT SOME ASSISTANCE HAD BEEN RENDERED TO LUANG PRABANG, MR-I HEADQUARTERS AREA. SUBJECT THEN DROPPED. CONTINUED BRIEFING OF SAYABOURY TACTICAL SITUATION WITHOUT INCIDENT.

3. ALL SUBJECTS THAT WERE COVERED ON THE NAM YU/SAYABOURY SECTOR BY BRIEFER, DID NOT APPEAR TO GENERATE ANY ALARMING CONCERN OR CONCENTRATED QUESTIONING BY EITHER LOWENSTEIN OR MOOSE. BRIEFER CONCENTRATED ON ADVISING VISITORS OF OVERALL SITUATION, HISTORICAL DATA ON THE AREA, AND ETHNIC IRREGULARS PROVIDING A DEGREE OF RLQ PRESENCE IN REMOTE AREAS OF NORTHWEST LAOS.

4. LOWENSTEIN AND MOOSE WERE THEN BRIEFED ON THE CURRENT LUANG PRABANG SITUATION. ADVISED SUBJECTS THAT IRREGULAR FORCES

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HAD SPEARHEADED OFFENSIVE ACTION AIMED AT RELIEVING NVA PRESSURE ON THE CITY, AND THAT ELEMENTS OF FOUR SAVANNAKHET IRREGULAR BATTALION WERE CURRENTLY TDY LUANG PRABANG. ADVISED SUBJECTS OF ACTUAL STRENGTH OF LUANG PRABANG IRREGULAR ASSETS AND THAT THEY PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED TWO 55-MAN IRREGULAR BG UNITS, BUT HAVE REORGANIZED THESE INTO THREE EACH 300-MAN FORCES FOR MOBILITY IN DEPLOYMENT. TOUCHED LIGHTLY ON LUANG PRABANG ROADWATCH/INTEL TEAM REQUIREMENTS AND FACT UNIT HAD SUCCESSFULLY EMPLOYED ELECTRONIC VEHICLE COUNTING DEVICES ON ROUTE 46 IN PAST. QUESTIONED BY MOOSE IF ANY TEAMS HAD CLASHED WITH CHINESE TROOPS. ADVISED SUBJECTS THAT OVER PAST YEARS ONLY ONE TEAM HAD CLASHED WITH CHINESE TROOPS, HOWEVER, THEIR INSTRUCTIONS AND OPERATIONAL TACTICS ARE TO AVOID CONTACTING ANY ENEMY FORCES WHILE DEPLOYED. TOUCHED LIGHTLY ON AAA WEAPONS DEPLOYED ON ROUTE 46 AND 45, ADVISING SUBJECTS THAT 100MM, 57MM AND 37MM WERE USED AND THAT MAXIMUM RANGE OF 100MM WEAPON CIRCA 68,000 FEET. MOOSE QUESTIONED IF ANY HIGH LEVEL PHOTO AIRCRAFT HAD ENCOUNTERED AAA. COB ADVISED SUBJECT THAT WE RECEIVE PHOTOGRAPHY ONLY AND ARE NOT PRIVY OF MISSION DATA ON HIGH LEVEL PHOTO FLIGHTS. SUBJECT THEN DROPPED.

5. BRIEFER GENERATED SOME QUESTIONING BY MOOSE REGARDING FL

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VERSUS IRREGULAR WHEN SUBJECTS ADVISED THAT IRREGULAR FORCES WHEN ENCOUNTERING FL FORCES OF EQUAL STRENGTH NORMALLY FAIR WILL IN COMBAT. HOWEVER, FL WITH NVA ADVISORS/ TROOPS ATTACHED GIVE IRREGULAR UNITS A DIFFICULT TIME AND THAT NVA TROOPS, SUCH AS LUANG PRABANG CURRENT SITUATIONS, REQUIRES SUPERIOR IRREGULAR STRENGTH IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN A SUCCESSFUL DEFENSE/OFFENSE CAPABILITY. COB CLARIFIED SUBJECT COMPARING MR-II IRREGULARS AGAINST NVA FORCES VERSUS FL, LUANG PRABANG FORCES AGAINST FL/NVA FORCES AND WESTERN MR-I FORCES PRIMARILY ENGAGING FL FORCES WITH SOME NVA ADVISORS. MOOSE QUERIED IF CHINESE FORCES EVER DEPLOYED WITH FL AND ANY INDICATION OF CHINESE TROOPS STOCKPILING SUPPLIES. ADVISES SUBJECT THAT NO CHINESE FORCES OBSERVED IN COMBAT ROLE AND THAT INFORMANT REPORTING HAS NOT INDICATED THAT CHINESE TROOPS ARE STOCKPILING OFFENSIVE SUPPLIES. UNCONFIRMED REPORTING HAS INDICATED A SMALL NUMBER OF CHINESE EKAW MILITIA SOUTH OF MUONG SING.

6. BRIEFING THEN CENTERED ON LONG TIENG ACTIVITY AT WHICH TIME COB QUERIED VISITORS REGARDING EXTENT OF BRIEFING AT LONG TIENG. LOWENSTEIN AND MOOSE ELECTED NOT TO REHASH LONG TIENG SITUATION AND BRIEFER WAS REQUESTED TO UPDATE LATEST SITUATION.

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ADVISED SUBJECTS OF ROCKET ATTACK 1 MAY FOR TOTAL OF 29 ROCKETS
LANDING IN VALLEY FOR THIS WEEK, AND MOVEMENT OF TWO BATTALIONS
TO HILL 1663 AREA. ADVISED SUBJECTS THAT 15 MEO IRREGULAR
BATTALIONS DEPLOYED PLUS ONE ARTILLERY UNIT, AND 9 OTHER IRREGULAR
INFANTRY BATTALIONS OPERATIONAL IN AREA AND ONE ARTILLERY BATTALION
SUPPORTING THESE FORCES. GP-1

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